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University of South Florida St. Petersburg, University Police Services.

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Your University Police

USF POLICE SERVICES
Public Safety Department, 530 THIRD STREET SOUTH (FIRST FLOOR OF FIFTH AVENUE PARKING STRUCTURE)

OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (727) 873-4140

“They are here to serve the campus community as well as to protect it”

OFFICERS
University Police officers are professional State law enforcement officers, drawing authority from State Statute 1012.97. They are here to serve the campus community as well as to protect it. All officers are certified by the state of Florida after completing training from the State Regional Police Training Academy. To be employed at USFPD, Officers must meet the highest standards of their profession. Officers must meet or exceed stringent educational, training, background, and physical requirements, as well as pass a process of personal interviews, oral boards, a writing exercise, and psychological testing. Many of our officers have also brought to USF a variety of experience and specialized training from other law enforcement agencies.

SERVICES
The University of South Florida Police Department strives to meet the needs of the University community by providing a variety of services:

- Respond to all emergencies -- police, fire, medical
- Investigate all misdemeanor and felony crimes
- Assist victims of crime
- Investigate traffic accidents
- Monitor alarms for intrusion, robbery, and fire
- Maintain police records information
- Provide motorist and citizen assistance
- Contact and refer individuals to other campus and community human services agencies
- Assist and cooperate with all local, county, and state emergency service agencies
Your University Police

- Plan and manage special events
- Handle special security requests
- Offer security consultations and surveys
- Receive and return lost and found property
- Provide fingerprints for job applicants

USFPD Officers patrol the campus and surrounding areas 24 hours a day, 7 days a week using cars, scooters, bicycles, and foot patrol. Upon receipt of any complaint, criminal or otherwise, an officer will respond to handle the situation. A follow-up investigation will be conducted in appropriate situations. Pastoral and professional mental health counselors may refer persons they are counseling to report crimes on a voluntary, confidential basis for inclusion in the annual crime statistics. USFPD has an excellent working relationship with all local law enforcement agencies. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement and other state and federal agencies are available to assist you upon request. Communication and coordination with all area law enforcement agencies are maintained on a 24-hour basis via computer networks such as the Florida Crime Information Center and the National Crime Information Center, as well as with the Pinellas County Criminal Justice Information System. The USFPD maintains a daily crime log, which is accessible to the public at the USFPD station. Annual crime statistics are published yearly in this flyer. A listing of registered sexual predators enrolled or employed at the University is maintained by the Pinellas County Sheriff, the US Police (http://www.stpt.usf.edu/POLICE/crime_information/sex_offenders.htm), and the Florida Dept of Law Enforcement (WWW.FDLE.STATE.FL.US).

Any emergency situation involving a threat to life or property should be immediately reported to the University Police (UP). The caller should stay on the line until the dispatcher terminates the call. Do not hang up! The dispatcher will summon police, fire or medical assistance. Follow-up counseling services or other trauma assistance will be arranged for the victim as needed. Emergencies at off-campus affiliates utilized by students will be handled by the appropriate local police/fire and 911 system.

TO REPORT AN EMERGENCY OR CRIME ON CAMPUS

- **DIAL 9-911 OR 3-4140** FROM A CAMPUS PHONE (OR 727-873-4140 FROM OTHER PHONES).
- **3-4140** WILL PUT YOU DIRECTLY IN TOUCH WITH UNIVERSITY POLICE AND SHOULD BE USED IF POLICE ASSISTANCE ONLY IS NEEDED.
- **9-911** WILL PUT YOU IN TOUCH WITH NORTH COUNTY EMERGENCY DISPATCH. THEY WILL DIRECTLY DISPATCH FIRE OR AMBULANCE TO YOU AND NOTIFY THE UNIVERSITY POLICE.
- **SPECIAL LIGHTED EMERGENCY PHONES**: ALSO LOCATED THROUGHOUT CAMPUS ARE BLUE LIGHT EMERGENCY TELEPHONES, WHICH REPORT DIRECTLY TO USFPD. THEY INDICATE THE LOCATION OF THE CALL EVEN IF THE CALLER IS UNABLE TO SPEAK. SIMPLY OPEN THE YELLOW BOX AND PICK UP THE PHONE. IF THERE IS A LARGE RED BUTTON ON THE PHONE, PRESS IT. IF NOT, JUST STAY ON THE LINE. THE USFPD OPERATOR WILL PICK UP THE CALL.
**CAMPUS SEXUAL ASSAULT POLICY**

The USF Police Department is responsible for the investigation of campus sexual offenses. The USF Police Department provides immediate assistance to the victim and initiates investigative processes to apprehend the perpetrator of the crime. The USF Police Department works closely with the Pinellas County State Attorney’s Office in all investigations of sexual battery/rape investigations. Complaints of sexual battery/rape are serious criminal offenses that will be processed within the criminal justice system. Sexual battery/rape committed by students is also a violation of the USF student Conduct rule. Student perpetrators are subject to institutional disciplinary sanctions including expulsion as provided by the USF rules in addition to those stated above in accordance with State law. Campus related sexual battery/rape committed by employees is also considered misconduct as provided by applicable rules and collective bargaining agreements. Employee perpetrators are subject to institutional disciplinary action including termination as provided by such rules/agreements in addition to those stated above in accordance with State law. Information regarding registered sexual predators and offenders may be obtained from the Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office, or from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement at www.fdle.state.fl.us.

**RIGHTS OF VICTIMS AND SUSPECTS OF CAMPUS RELATED SEXUAL BATTERIES.**

The University understands and commits its efforts toward successfully dealing with the trauma experienced by victims of sexual battery/rape. Efforts will be directed toward assisting the victim at all stages of the investigation and judicial process that may follow. The same shall be accorded to victims in connection with disciplinary actions involving alleged employee perpetrators subject to applicable rules and collective bargaining agreements. USF policies dictate:

- The right to request a University directive forbidding the alleged perpetrator from contact with the victim.
- The right to request an immediate change in residence hall arrangements and/or transfer of classes/workplaces.
- The right to have present throughout the disciplinary process an advisor, which may also be a legal counsel.
- The right to remain present during the entire hearing.
- The right to have irrelevant sexual history excluded from the hearing.
- The right to submit a list of related questions for consideration prior to the hearing.
- The right to submit a victim impact statement.
- The right to know the outcome of the proceeding.

**EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**

Our commitment to public safety through education is the driving force behind our Crime Prevention Unit. We offer programs on personal safety, property protection, and more. Through student orientation, guest lecturers in academic classes, and organization programs, the Crime Prevention Officers are able to reach our students and staff with this important information.

- Personal Safety -- Reducing Your Risks
- Drinking and Driving -- DUI Information
- Drugs -- Health Risks, Liabilities
- Burglary and Theft Prevention
- Operation ID -- Engraving
- Date/Acquaintance Rape Program for Both Men and Women
- Cash Handling and What to Do If A Robbery Occurs
- Bike Engraving and Theft Prevention
- Child Safety Programs
- To request a program, contact our Crime Prevention Unit at (727)873-4140
YOUR PERSONAL SAFETY

SEXUAL ASSAULT

The most vulnerable target is the woman alone—at any time of day or night...for any reason. Alone at home, babysitting, shopping, walking, in a car, at a bus stop alone. Sexual assault is not provoked by either a woman's dress or mannerisms. Vulnerability and opportunity are the key factors (regardless of all else) that cause females of all ages to be victims.

The rapist is a usually a man who is emotionally unstable, yet deals with life on a day-to-day basis in a reasonably normal and competent manner. He is often an apparently normal individual, but one who has difficulty relating to others in a permanent or lasting fashion. He is usually a friend, a date, a relative, a co-worker or a casual acquaintance of the victim. It cannot be emphasized enough that sexual assault is a crime of violence. Rapists are unstable persons who view their victims as objects upon which to vent their rage, aggression, frustration or insecurity.

Sexual assault can happen virtually anywhere, but the largest single grouping of reported incidents is either in the home of the victim or the home of the offender. It is important to be aware of all potentially hazardous areas. Some examples are:

* Remote parking lots
* Beaches at night
* Shopping centers
* Public parking areas
* Jogging courses
* On the street
* Stairwells
* School playgrounds
* Laundromats
* Hitchhiking
* Deserted buildings

narcotics, hallucinogens, dangerous drugs, or controlled substances, except as where permitted by prescriptions or law. Violations of these laws are dealt with in both criminal prosecution and with administrative sanctions, including permanent expulsion from the University of South Florida.

WEAPONS

Florida State Statute 790.06(12) forbids any person other than a Law Enforcement Officer from carrying a firearm on a university campus. Other weapons are also prohibited.

DRUG/ALCOHOL ABUSE PREVENTION AND COUNSELING

COUNSELING AND CAREER CENTER

Bay 119
Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Appointments can be made in person or by calling (727) 873-4422.

The Counseling & Career Center provides professional counseling services and related programs to help students make the most of the total college experience – personally, intellectually, vocationally, socially and physically. The Center is a campus resource for the campus community and provides information, consultation and referral for mental health, substance abuse, career development, learning skills and wellness. The Center provides information, education and training on substance abuse issues. Individuals who are concerned about their own or others’ substance use or dependency may receive individual consultation, assessment, short-term treatment if appropriate, or referral to other treatment resources as needed. Information revealed in counseling, even the information that a student has made appointments, is not disclosed to others unless the student provides written authorization for information to be released. The exceptions to this practice are when a counselor believes that the student is an imminent danger to self or others; when a child or elder adult is being subjected to abuse, neglect or exploitation; or when the disclosure is made necessary by legal proceedings. The Victims’ Advocacy Service is coordinated by the Counseling & Career Center. It is available to assist all USF students or employees who are victims of actual or threatened violence, including but not limited to battery, assault, sexual battery (date rape, acquaintance rape, stranger rape), attempted sexual battery, stalking, or sexual harassment. The victim advocate will provide information, support and guidance including short-term crisis intervention, assistance through the campus judicial process, referral to community-based victim assistance programs, help in resolving academic problems resulting from victimization and referral for necessary counseling, medical, legal and social service assistance.
If a sexual assault happens on campus, call the University Police (3-4140). The primary concern of the police is the safety and well-being of the person who has been assaulted. When the officer arrives, she/he can take the victim for medical assistance. At this time, the only information needed is a brief account of what happened, a physical description of the assailant, and his direction of travel. Later, a more detailed interview will take place. The sooner the crime is reported, the better the chance that the assailant will be caught.

Preserving physical evidence will increase the chance of prosecuting the assailant. Physical evidence may be found on the victim as well at the crime scene. Although the victim will probably want to wash and change clothes, she should not do so until the nurse examiner and police have gathered evidence. The police may ask for clothing and other items to check for evidence.

If the victim does not want to file an official police report of the incident, she can contact the USF Tampa Victims' Advocate at 813-974-5757, 24 hours a day or USF St. Petersburg Counseling Center at 727-873-4422. Crisis intervention, emergency medical help and counseling referrals are services available.

Remember that there is no more reason for you to feel guilt, shame, or embarrassment than if you have been the victim of a mugging or other crime. There are a great many people who are sensitive to your needs and are anxious and able to help.

PREVENTION

The following preventive measures may help minimize your chances of being attacked:

* If you are going out, tell someone where you are going and when you will return.

* Don't walk alone at night. Take a friend with you or call University Police.

* Always lock your doors and don't loan the key. Keys can be duplicated.

* Never leave valuables visible from the window.

* Never carry large sums of money or display a lot of jewelry.

* In elevators, trust your intuition. If you feel uncomfortable, you do not have to get on or off. Stand near the controls. If necessary, you can press all the buttons or use the emergency alarm.
BIKE THEFT

There are many bicycles being ridden at USF. With this concentration of bicycles, thieves are bound to be attracted to our campus. To reduce your chance of being a bicycle theft victim you should take the following measures:

The more expensive and attractive your bicycle is, the more likely it is to be stolen. A mechanically sound and generic appearing bicycle is a less likely target than a flashy, expensive one.

The best protection for your bike is to secure it properly with a hardened steel "U" shaped lock. These locks only work if hooked through the bicycle frame and secured to a fixed object, such as the bicycle racks provided on campus.

To help find your bike should it be stolen, you should record the serial number off of the frame and keep it in your wallet, engrave your driver's license number on the frame, and register your bike with Parking Services (873-4510).

The University Police Office can assist you with engraving your bike, choosing the right lock, and registering your bicycle. All of these services are free, and can be provided by simply calling 873-4140, and making an appointment or by just stopping by.

MORE SAFETY TIPS

Jogging

Be aware of people around you. Try to avoid running alone, even in daylight. Stay on well-lighted paths in open areas. Vary your route. Be suspicious of people you pass many times. Don't wear earphones. They block any audible warning of a stranger's approach.

In Your Car

Park in a well-lighted area at night. Pay for parking. Check the street before leaving the car. Walk to your car with keys ready. Check the back seat before entering. Someone could be hiding there. While driving, keep the doors locked so no one can jump in at a red light. Keep enough gas in your tank for emergencies. If you are followed by another car, drive to a police station or business with lights and people. Do not go home with someone following you.

If your car breaks down, lift the hood, put on the flashers and wait inside for help. Ask people who stop to call the police or AAA. Keep an envelope with quarters and phone numbers to call and slip it through a partially opened window to someone wanting to help.

On the Street

Be alert. Look around you. Be aware of others on the street. Make it difficult for anyone to take you by surprise. Walk or bike with others if you have a choice. Try not to go alone. Stay on populated, well-lighted streets when you can. If possible, avoid dark or concealed areas. Walk in the street if it appears safer. If you think someone is following you, turn around and check so you are not caught off guard. Cross the street or change direction. Walk or turn toward people, traffic or lights. Consider confronting the person with a loud firm voice, "Don't follow me!" Do anything you need to enter an occupied building.

If a car follows you or stops near you for directions, do not approach the car. Change direction if you feel threatened, and walk or run toward other people, stores, or a lighted house.

At Home

Good locks on windows and doors make it difficult for assailants and burglars to get in. Most rental units have dead bolt locks on doors leading to the outside. For a copy of our Apartment Guide to Safety, call our Crime Prevention Officer at 873-4140. When you are home alone, pull shades or curtains after dark. If you let someone in and have second thoughts, be assertive. Tell him to leave, or leave yourself. Call a friend or neighbor to come over. Pretend you are not alone by mentioning a friend or family member asleep in the next room. Make sure hallways, entrances, garages and grounds are well-lighted. Leave porch lights on all night, or when you expect to return after dark, leave an interior light on in a room or two with the shades drawn. Leave a radio on. Install a peephole in your door. When someone is at your door, never open it until you know who is there. Repair, sales people, police, and survey-takers carry identification. Ask to see it and call the company to verify if you have any questions. If someone wants to use the phone, make the call for her/him without opening the door. Leave spare house keys with a friend, not under the door mat or in the planter. Get to know your neighbors so you can get help if necessary. Be familiar with who is coming and going in the neighborhood. List last name and initials only on your mailbox and door. Consider not listing your address in the phone book. Avoid giving out information about yourself or making appointments with strangers over the phone. Telephone answering machines should have a brief recorded message in a male's voice. Have a pre-conceived escape plan for your home.

Nuisance Telephone Calls

Nuisance telephone calls can be stopped if you do the following:

Hang up as soon as you know it is a crank call. Don't converse with strangers. Keep cool -- Don't let the caller know you are upset. Call the police if the problem persists. Keep a log of when you receive calls.
## WHAT TO DO IF.......

...You Are the Victim of a Theft

If items are stolen from you, there is little hope of recovering them unless you have utilized the electric engravers as described in the Services offered by Public Safety section and/or have recorded the serial numbers of the items. As soon as the theft is discovered, notify the University Police at 873-4140. An officer will take a report from you. Try to supply as much information as possible concerning the stolen property including serial number, make, model and value. The majority of thefts on campus occur because property was left unsecured or unattended. It is estimated that over 80 percent of all thefts on campus could be prevented if everyone would lock up valuables. This is the most effective way of preventing theft.

... You Are Assaulted

Dial 873-4140 as soon as you can. Try to remember as much about the person as possible. Important characteristics to include: sex, race, hair color and length; body size; clothing description; scars or tattoos & other noticeable markings; mode of travel, vehicle type, color & tag number. The campus will be searched immediately for suspects and neighboring police agencies will be notified to assist.

...You See Suspicious Persons

If you see anyone acting suspiciously, call the University Police by dialing 873-4140. Do not approach the person yourself. Report the type of suspicious activity and give a general description of the subjects (number of persons, sex, race, dress, vehicle and location). Stay on the line with the Police Dispatcher. Campus police will investigate your report immediately.

If all members of the campus community become security conscious and report suspicious activity, thefts and related incidents can be measurably reduced.

... You Receive a Bomb Threat

If you receive a bomb threat, it is important to obtain as much information from the caller as possible. Things to ask include: (1) Location of the bomb; (2) Time of explosion; (3) Type of bomb. Observe the caller's voice and any background noises you may hear. Such information may assist in identifying the caller. Call the University Police by dialing: 873-4140 immediately. Do not panic. Campus police will search the area involved and notify other appropriate agencies if necessary. Campus police and the supervisor of the building together will determine if evacuation is required. Do Not use a cell phone to report the bomb threat.

... You Are Sick or Injured

Call the University Police and advise the nature of the illness or injury and your exact location. A police Officer will respond to assist you and will have St. Petersburg Fire Rescue respond if necessary. If you are not seriously injured or sick, call a friend or relative for assistance. If you desire, you may have a friend transport you to the hospital. Bayfront Medical Center is the closest emergency room to USF St. Petersburg. Bayfront is located at 701 6th Street South. In an emergency you can also call 9-9-1-1 and North County dispatch will send an ambulance to assist you.

... You Have Been Involved in a Motor Vehicle Accident

Call the University Police immediately. If people have been injured dial 9-9-1-1 or 873-4140 and provide the requested information to the Police Dispatcher. Have your driver's license, registration and insurance card ready to assist the University Police Officer who writes the report.

Do not stand in the roadway as you wait for the police to arrive.

9-9-1-1- calls go directly to North County Dispatch who will dispatch fire or ambulance if needed.

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### PREVENTING AUTO THEFT

Lock your car and pocket the key when you leave for a minute or several hours. Close the windows all the way, and make sure the trunk is locked.

Never leave an identification tag on your key ring. If your keys are lost or stolen, it will guide the thief to your car.

Don't hide an extra car key on or in your vehicle.

Park in a well-lighted and busy area.

Use a highly visible locking bar across the steering wheel.

Don't park in the same spot each day.

Park with the front wheels turned sharply to the curb, to prevent a thief from towing your car.

Take everything of value with you or lock it in the trunk.

Remove radar detectors and if possible, the stereo from plain view.

Don't leave the vehicle title, credit cards, registration or checkbooks in the car.
This chart reflects offenses that have been reported to the University of South Florida Police Department and that have been filed with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.